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APR 23 2009

Application No.: 10/590,010

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (Canceled)

2 (Currently Amended): The thrust needle bearing according to claim [[1]] 8, wherein the value of the arithmetic average roughness Ra of a pocket guide face of said cage [[(3)]] is set to at most 0.4 μm.

3 (Currently Amended): The thrust needle bearing according to claim [[1]] 8, wherein the value of the arithmetic average roughness Ra of said race ~~(1a, 1b)~~ is set to at most 0.5 μm.

4 (Currently Amended): The thrust needle bearing according to claim [[1]] 8, used in a compressor for an air conditioner.

5 (Currently Amended): The thrust needle bearing according to claim [[1]] 8, used in an automatic transmission.

6 (Currently Amended): A thrust needle bearing employing lubricating oil and having a rolling element [[(2)]] held by a cage [[(3)]] and rolling on a race ~~(1a, 1b)~~, wherein the clearance between a pocket guide face of said cage [[(3)]] and said rolling element [[(2)]] is set to at least 60 μm and at most 130 μm.

7 (Currently Amended): The thrust needle bearing according to claim 6, wherein said cage ~~(3) is a W type~~ is a wavy-shaped cage.

Application No.: 10/590,010

8 (Currently Amended): [[The]] A thrust needle bearing ~~according to claim 6, wherein~~ employing lubricating oil and having a rolling element held by a cage and rolling on a race, wherein

the clearance between a pocket guide face of said cage and said rolling element is set to at least 60 μm and at most 130 μm, and

the value of the arithmetic average roughness Ra of said rolling element [[(2)]] is set to at least 0.03 μm and at most 0.15 μm.

9 (Original): The thrust needle bearing according to claim 6, used in a compressor for an air conditioner.

10 (Original): The thrust needle bearing according to claim 6, used in an automatic transmission.